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Work and Workers

NEW TESTAMENT lexicography is to be enriched by a *Complete Greek-German Dictionary of the Writings of the New Testament and of Early Christian Literature*, from the pen of Dr. Erwin Preuschen, of Darmstadt. Dr. Preuschen is well known for his critical work in the field of early Christian literature, for his collaboration with Professor Harnack in the monumental *Geschichte der altchristlichen Litteratur*, and as the editor of the *Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft*. The publisher, Alfred Töpelmann, of Giessen, announces that the first instalment, of 160 pages, will appear shortly, while the whole will be out next year. The subscription price will be 12 or 13 marks. Dr. Preuschen proposes to include in his survey the remains of extra-canonical gospels, and the Apostolic Fathers, thus adding greatly to the usefulness of his lexicon. He will aim at the utmost conciseness, rigidly excluding all that relates merely to classical or later Christian literature, but within his chosen field will strive for the utmost completeness. That most difficult of lexicographical tasks, the careful analysis of meanings, is to receive special attention. Students of early Christian literature are to be congratulated that so timely and important a task is to be performed by so accomplished a scholar.

THE NEWS of the sudden death on March 25, 1908, of Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, president of Union Theological Seminary, New York, brings grief to a wide circle of friends and hearers of Dr. Hall in many lands. As recently as December, 1907, Dr. Hall delivered the Haskell Lectures at the University of Chicago, and served as University Preacher. Charles Cuthbert Hall was born in New York in 1852, and was graduated from Williams College in 1872. His theological studies were pursued at Union Theological Seminary and in London and Edinburgh. After two pastorates, he became president of Union Theological Seminary in 1897, continuing in that important office until his death. Dr. Hall served the University of Chicago as Barrows Lecturer to India and the Far East in 1902-3, and again in 1906-7, in each case with conspicuous devotion and success. The last lectures, on "The Witness of the Oriental Consciousness to Jesus Christ," were subsequently given at the University on the Haskell Foundation, and will shortly appear in book form. The earlier lectures appeared in 1905 under the title *Christian Belief Interpreted by Christian Experience*. In this Indian apostolate, Dr.

Hall's religious insight, wide sympathy, literary skill, and charm and strength of presentation, admirably equipped him to render notable service, and in India as in America his untimely death, hastened, as some believe, by his recent labors in the Orient, will be sincerely mourned. Dr. Hall came to Union Theological Seminary at a time when there was widespread distrust of critical scholarship, as likely to undermine Christian faith and activity. He frankly recognized that a virile Christianity must make use of critical scholarship, but he always insisted that scholarship of any sort is merely an efficient tool for the promotion of the highest spiritual life. He has been widely influential in dispelling that distrust of critical scholarship which so largely prevailed ten years ago.